



## **Minutes City Council's Education Partnership Committee April 19, 2010**

Minutes of the meeting of the City Council's Education Partnerships Committee held on Monday, April 19, 2010, 3:30 p.m., at Rio Salado College, 2323 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Tempe, Arizona.

### **Committee Members Present:**

Councilmember Ben Arredondo, Chair  
Councilmember Joel Navarro

### **City Staff Present:**

Jaclyn Levin, City Clerk's Office  
Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Sv  
Kathy Berzins, Social Svcs  
Mari Yennie, Comm Rel

Mark Richwine, Parks & Rec Mgr  
David Park, City Atty  
Kim Hale, PD  
Amber Wakeman, Comm Rel

### **Guests Present:**

Bill Munch, Tempe Elementary School Dist  
Art Tate, Superintendent, Tempe Elementary School Dist  
Steve Adolph, Tempe Union High School Dist  
Kelly Alexander, Kyrene School Dist  
Lynette Stonefeld, TCC, Communities in Schools

Stephanie Salazar, ASU  
Ross Robb, Kyrene School Dist  
Barbara Khalsa, Rio Salado College  
Kate Hanley, TCC Exec Dir  
Yvonne Lawrence, Rio Salado College

**Councilmember Arredondo called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m., and everyone introduced themselves.**

### **Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances**

Barbara Khalsa welcomed everyone to Rio Salado College. The Tempe location is the administrative headquarters for the Rio Salado colleges. They serve over 64,000 students from this facility alone. Ms. Khalsa informed the guests that it was built with bond dollars and the conference center is available for community use. Rio Salado College is expanding and has locations across Maricopa County with plans for expansion. A café will be available as part of a lab for sustainable food systems. The gardens will supply all organic foods for the cafe. They are also planning a partnership with Queen Creek. A project that they are really proud of is the opening of a Veterans Outreach Education Center.

Councilmember Arredondo stated that this venue would be an ideal location for school board and public meetings. In the City of Tempe, Rio Salado is the largest Community College.

### **Agenda Item 2 – East Valley Veteran's Outreach Center**

Yvonne Lawrence stated that the East Valley Veteran's Outreach Center is a partnership between the Maricopa Community Colleges with Rio Salado Community College taking the lead on the project due to their experience in Veteran affairs. The site will be located at Price Road and Southern Avenue in the old Michael's Plaza. The proposed opening is scheduled for January, 2011. This will be a one-stop resource center for veterans and their families to get information on the five-college program and other related information on work building skills, as well

as, serve as a social gathering place for veterans. Ms. Lawrence encouraged attendees to submit suggestions on outreach approaches to veterans to encourage them to participate in this program.

Rio Salado has a partnership with the Department of Economic Security (DES) to create a Workforce Development Program to help veterans with resume writing skills, interviewing, and other workforce related skills.

The ASU Veterans Upward Bound Program is reserved for first generation college students that focuses on preparing veterans for college level work. ASU will also be involved in getting veterans tutoring and coursework assistance.

Councilmember Arredondo directed staff to create a link on the City's webpage to the Rio Salado veteran's assistance website. This is one way to outreach, acknowledge and thank veterans.

### **Agenda Item 3 – Community Use of School Playgrounds Update**

Mark Richwine stated that staff has received an update from the school districts legal counsel today which will be presented to the Council in Executive Session on Thursday, April 22, 2010. Based on Council feedback, staff will then work with the districts legal counsel, with the intent to produce a final agreement. From what the districts have provided, it substantially conforms to what this board has been talking about.

Councilmember Arredondo thanked the three superintendents for working with the districts legal counsel and directed staff to send a letter to all of the school district participants acknowledging their participation and contributions to this process. Tempe should continue to work on the partnerships.

Councilmember Navarro agreed and thanked the district representatives for their involvement and willingness to partner and appreciated the districts work.

### **Agenda Item 4 – CIS Application for Family Resource Centers**

Lynette Stonefeld stated that last week communities and schools sent an application to the Regional First Things First Council to expand services to seven of the family resource centers in Tempe and Guadalupe. The expansion would be services provided to families with children ages 0-5 and will be held in both English and Spanish. This program is grant funded and will also have skill building resources for families. If funded, these services will begin in August. The services include parenting services, early literacy and bilingual counseling. These resource centers are to serve families that don't have children in school yet, but to prepare them for when their children do reach school age. Currently, there are resource centers set up in both Tempe and Kyrene school districts. This proposal would expand those resources.

Councilmember Arredondo directed staff to add a link on the City's website to connect with the resource centers so the public knows what they are doing and where these resource centers are located.

### **Agenda Item 5 – Future Agenda Items**

None

### **Agenda Item 6 – Future Meeting Date**

May 17, 2010 – Family Resource Center, Kyrene de los Ninos Elementary School, 1330 East Dava Drive, at 3:30p.m.

### **Agenda Item 7 – Announcements**

- The next meeting will be the last meeting before the summer
- Councilmember Arredondo once again thanked the school superintendents and Rio Salado for all of their hard work

**Meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.**

Prepared by: Jaclyn Levin  
Reviewed by: Kay Savard

---

Jan Hort, City Clerk